



Urban District of Whittlesey

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Public Health Inspector

for the Year

1968





OFFICERS OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health :

D.C.Logan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Surveyor & Public Health Inspector :

D.A.Bamford, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Surveyor & Additional  
Public Health Inspector :

J.B.Stocks

OFFICES OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
9, Queen Street,  
Whittlesey.

Telephone Number

Whittlesey 2224

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	23,362
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,438
Rateable Value (at 31.12.68)	£349,760
Product of ld. rate (at 31.3.68)	£1,381. 14s. 7d.
Population (Registrar General's Figures)	11,000



TO:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to present my Annual Report on the health of the people of Whittlesey for the year 1968.

It is with great pleasure I take this opportunity to express my thanks to my colleagues Mr. Bamford, Mr. Stocks and Mrs. Tyers for their readily given help in carrying out the work of the department. They have been energetic and enthusiastic in meeting the many challenges they have encountered. They could always be relied upon to deal with the public with patience and courtesy.

I have the honour to be,  
Your most obedient servant,

D.C. LOGAN.

Medical Officer of Health.



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# VITAL STATISTICS

## LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	90	56	146
Illegitimate	10	4	14
Total :	<u>100</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>160</u>

## Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population

Whittlesey Urban District	---	14.5
Whittlesey Urban District adjusted	-	12.47
England and Wales	-	16.9

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births 8.75

## STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

## Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths

Whittlesey Urban District	18.0
England and Wales	14.0

The stillbirth rate of 18 per 1,000 births is slightly above the national average. Two stillbirths occurred where the mothers were suffering from pre-eclamptic toxæmia a state associated with a high stillbirth rate. The third was that of a child with severe deformity of the head and spine.

## TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	90	58	148
Illegitimate	11	4	15
Total :	<u>101</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>163</u>





INFANT DEATHS (Deaths under one year)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total :	1	-	1

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births

Whittlesey Urban District	-	6
England and Wales	-	18

Only one death occurred during the year giving an infant mortality rate of 6 per 1,000 births compared with 18 per 1,000 for England and Wales as a whole. This is the second year the rate has been substantially below the national rate.

The death was that of a child several weeks premature and was due to the respiratory distress syndrome only a few hours after birth.

<u>Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births</u>	6.84
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<u>Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births</u>	0
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NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE ( deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)

Whittlesey Urban District	-	6
England and Wales	-	12.4

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)

Whittlesey Urban District	-	6
England and Wales	-	10.5

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)

Whittlesey Urban District	-	24.5
England and Wales	-	25

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of Deaths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	198

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	0.24



DEATHS ( ALL CAUSES)	<u>Male</u>	61	<u>Female</u>	42	<u>Total</u>	103
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Death Rate - per 1,000 estimated population

Whittlesey Urban District	-	9.4
Whittlesey Urban District adjusted	-	9.98
England and Wales	-	11.9

Causes of Death in the Whittlesey Urban District, as supplied by the Registrar General for 1968 :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Cholera	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-
Bacillary Dysentery and amoebiasis	-	-
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	-	-
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	-	-
Other tuberculosis, including late effects	-	-
Plague	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Streptococcal sore throat and scarlet fever	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
Smallpox	-	-
Measles	-	-
Typhus and other rickettsioses	-	-
Malaria	-	-
Syphilis and its sequelae	-	1
All other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm stomach	-	1
Malignant neoplasm lung bronchus	1	1
Malignant neoplasm breast	-	1
Malignant neoplasm uterus	-	2
Other malignant neoplasms including neoplasms of lymphatic and haemopoietic tissue	6	5
Leukaemia	-	-
Benign neoplasms and neoplasms of unspecified nature	-	-
Diabetes mellitus	-	-
Avitaminoses and other nutritional deficiency diseases	-	-
Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	-	-
Anaemias	-	-
Other diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	-	-
Mental disorders	-	-
Meningitis	-	-
Other diseases of nervous system and sense organs	-	1
Active rheumatic fever	-	-
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	-
Hypertensive disease	1	1
Ischaemic heart disease	25	6
Other forms of heart disease	1	1
Cerebrovascular disease	6	7
Other diseases of the circulatory system	-	2
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	6	6
Bronchitis, emphysema	7	-





Causes of Death in the Whittlesey Urban District, as supplied  
by the Registrar General for 1968 (continued)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Asthma	--	--
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	--
Peptic Ulcer	--	--
Appendicitis	--	--
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	--	2
Cirrhosis of liver	--	--
Other diseases of the digestive system	--	--
Nephritis and nephrosis	--	--
Hyperplasia of prostate	--	--
Other diseases of the genito-urinary system	--	--
Abortion	--	--
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium	--	--
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	--	--
Diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	--	--
Congenital anomalies	--	--
Birth injury, difficult labour and other anoxic and hypoxic conditions	1	--
Other causes of perinatal mortality	--	--
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	1
Motor vehicle accidents	2	2
All other accidents	2	1
Suicide and self inflicted injuries	1	1
All other external causes	--	--
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TOTAL :	61	42
	<hr/>	<hr/>



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The outstanding feature of the year was the expected epidemic of measles. The prevailing type was mild in character and there were few complications and no deaths. Shortly it is hoped that epidemics of measles will be a thing of the past. Immunisation against it during the second year of life by injection is already proceeding and is proving successful.

Twenty one cases of whooping cough were notified, some occurring in children who had been given immunising injections.

During the year a new schedule of injections was instituted, spacing them out in order to give greater protection. By this means it is anticipated that the number of cases will decline.

One case of pulmonary tuberculosis was notified but subsequent follow up gave rise to doubt as to the authenticity of the diagnosis, nevertheless the case was treated as notified.

## NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during 1968 :-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	162	147	309
Whooping Cough	9	12	21
Scarlet Fever	9	6	15
Food Poisoning	3	1	4
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	1	-	1
Dysentery	-	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	-	1	1
	<u>184</u>	<u>168</u>	<u>352</u>





TO

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report  
for the year 1968.

The only special item which arose during the  
year was the completion of the water contract under which  
a new delivery main from Peterborough was laid, the  
holding capacity of the reservoir increased and relief  
mains were laid to improve the supplies at the outlying  
districts of Coates and Eastrea and the east of the town,  
The works will undoubtedly remedy the shortages which  
have been experienced in the past.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank  
the Public Health Committee for their support, to the  
Medical Officer of Health for his guidance and advice,  
to the Clerk of the Council for his help and to Mr. Stocks  
and Mrs Tyers for the work they have carried out during  
the year.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D.A. BAMFORD.

Surveyor & Public Health Inspector



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

The Council are no longer responsible for the water undertaking within their area. The water works were transferred to the South Lincs Water Board on the 1st October, 1968.

Further samples have been taken and have proved satisfactory.

### CARAVANS

There are 16 licences issued under the Caravan Act for single sites and one multiple site. These sites have been satisfactory and are of a good standard.

One of the two unsatisfactory multiple sites which has deemed planning permission and also deemed site licence has been served with notice to improve the site to the model standard and has been given 12 months in which to bring the site up to standard.

The County Planning Authority is still formulating what action is to be taken to close the other unsatisfactory site.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Most of the town area and the villages of Coates and Eastrea are sewered. Because of the flatness of the area this sewerage relies on five pumping stations.

The Council's consulting engineers are Kershaw & Kaufman of London and they have been instructed to produce a scheme to enable the present overloaded system to function correctly. The scheme will follow very roughly the comments made in the 1967 annual report of the Medical Officer of Health. Severe surcharging of the sewerage system was experienced on several occasions this year.

Similarly Kershaw & Kaufman are carrying out a survey of the sewerage system to establish when and by what amount infiltration is causing embarrassment at the works.





## NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION

The Council employs a Contractor to empty pails, vaults and cesspools at properties which cannot be connected to the sewer. The Contract in 1968 covered 161 pails which were emptied three times in every fortnight. Septic tanks and vaults are emptied free on request once in any period of six months.

The conversion of properties from existing pails and vaults still progresses satisfactorily.

## REFUSE COLLECTION

The refuse is collected by direct labour and two vehicles are used. The town area is collected by a Shelvoke & Drewry 16/18 cu.yd. vehicle with compressor which is driven by the foreman and has four loaders. The outside areas are collected weekly and more isolated dwellings have a three weekly collection.

Routine servicing and washing of the vehicles is done by the drivers. Repairs are carried out by local garages.

The refuse collection service is now more than ever considerably over extended. This is due to a variety of factors and in the present economic climate the Council have decided that any further extension of the service financially must be deferred. It is, therefore, becoming more and more difficult to maintain the above collection.

Number of bins collected during year	171,621
Town round weekly average	2,078
Outside area weekly round	1,223

## REFUSE DISPOSAL

The refuse disposal tip is situated in New Road not far from the centre of the town but away from the dwellings.

The tip is open for the reception of rubbish and two men are employed part time to carry out levelling. By accepting rubbish it is hoped to prevent indiscriminate tipping of unwanted articles in dykes, grass verges, etc.

Being a potential source of rat infestation regular poison baiting was carried out and a good measure of control achieved.





## OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES

Routine visits have been carried out to registered premises and particular attention is being drawn to owners of shop properties where knives are used regarding the training of employees in their correct use.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

## SWIMMING BATHS

The Council has an open air heated swimming pool in the Manor Field, Station Road. The pool is 110 feet long and 42 feet wide. The manager carries out tests twice daily, more frequently in times of heavy loads, and by careful control of the continuous filtration and chlorination plant a satisfactory standard was maintained. Bacteriological samples of the water were also satisfactory in spite of high attendances.

## MEASUREMENT OF AIR POLLUTION

Sampling of the atmosphere continues and the data obtained is dispatched to the Director, Warren Springs Laboratory.

## PETROLEUM INSPECTIONS

The previously reported action against a local garage for storage of petroleum spirit without a licence was heard by the Local Magistrate and conviction was obtained with a fine.



## INSPECTIONS

The following table summarises the inspections made in 1968 :-

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Informal Notices</u>	<u>Statutory Notices</u>
Cesspool, pail and vault work	20	3	-
Drainage	47	8	-
Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses	43	4	-
Slaughterhouses and Butchers Shops	156	-	-
Food Shops	103	6	-
Restaurants	14	-	-
Verminous and Filthy Premises	-	-	-
Housing	989	46	-
Nuisances	23	12	-
Rats and Mice	85	--	-
Caravan Sites	4	-	-
Refuse Collection and Disposal	23	-	-

All informal notices served were complied with.

## DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION

Several reports of wasps were made and were successfully dealt with.



## HOUSING

Number of houses erected during 1968 :-

By Local Authority Nil

By Private Enterprise 72 Houses and Bungalows

22 applications were made for Improvement Grants, all of which were approved and received grants.

4 Notices of Time & Place to consider the condition of 4 dwellings were served in the year and the following action taken :-

Demolition Orders 3

Closing Orders 4

1 dwelling was demolished and 2 families were re-housed from unfit houses.

1 undertaking was given on the 9th April, 1968, to carry out repairs to the St. ...  
This work was completed in October, 1968.

## RENT ACT, 1957

There were no applications under the above Act during the year.





FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Inspections made (under the Factories Act) for 1968

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	-	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced	48	21	-	-
Other Premises	11	20	-	-
TOTAL :__	61	43	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Number of Cases in which Defects were found		Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted	
		Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Closet Unsuitable or Defective	1	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :	1	-	-	-	-

OUTWORK SECTIONS 110 & 111

There are no outworkers in the district.





## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### ICE-CREAM

There are 44 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream; all the ice-cream being pre-packed. The only loose ice-cream sold in the area is sold from vehicles.

There are no ice-cream manufacturing premises in the area.

### CONDEMNED FOOD

6 certificates were issued covering 8 items of foodstuffs which were voluntarily surrendered by shopkeepers. Condemned food is disposed of by burying in the Council's refuse tip. It was not found necessary to seize any diseased or unsound food.

### FOOD PREPARATION

Premises registered for the making up of food	11
Fish Friers	3
Bakehouses	3
Cafes	2
Other food shops	39
Public Houses	32

Satisfactory food premises and food handling are of prime importance and it is essential for food handlers to learn the correct methods of dealing with modern food packaging, particularly frozen foods.



## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is one modern privately owned licensed slaughterhouse in the area. It is well maintained and is capable of handling a much larger throughput than is being dealt with at present.

## KNACKER'S YARD

There is one licensed knacker's yard which is satisfactory.

No live animals are brought on to the premises.

## MEAT INSPECTION

All animals killed in the slaughterhouse are inspected mainly involving overtime.



## MEAT INSPECTION

### Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle (exclud- ing cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	112	2	-	355	442	-
Number inspected	112	2	-	355	442	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	15	1	-	19	15	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	13.39	50	-	5.35	3.39	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	10	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	2.26	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-





## MEAT INSPECTION

### Bovines

7 livers abscesses	106 lbs.
4 livers distomatosis	54 lbs.
2 lungs pleurisy and pneumonia	19 lbs.
1 lungs abscesses	10 lbs.
1 kidney retention of urine	4 lbs.
1 head lungs liver and spleen congested (casualty)	60 lbs.

### Pigs

10 heads tuberculosis	144 lbs.
6 livers milk spot	27½ lbs.
3 lungs pleurisy	9 lbs.
1 heart, lungs and tongue endocarditis	4 lbs.
1 head and pluck bacterial necrosis	16 lbs.
2 kidneys retention of urine	8 ozs.
2 kidneys bruised	8 ozs.





